Vanguard Foundation

Second Annual Report

1973

April 1st – December 31st

3665 Sacramento Street

San Francisco 94118

(415) 563-0250

Vanguard Foundation is a tax-exempt funding source for small, charitable projects in the San Francisco Bay Area. We support groups which are too controversial or too risky to find funds at most other foundations. In this second year of operation, we granted more than $58,000 to thirty-two projects and received donations of $66,000 from members and $15,000 from sixteen non-members. Although we will consider making grants as large as $5,000 in exceptional cases, most of our grants will remain in the $1,000 to $2,000 range.

Eight of Vanguard's original twelve members remain, five more have joined, and five are prospective members. We are six women and seven men, 20 to 27 years old, who have inherited money. Although encompassing a wide range of viewpoints, we all share the belief in self-taxation to support constructive change in our society. Three members work full or part time as Vanguard's administrative staff.

Vanguard first screens applications by a full vote of the membership at one of our bi-weekly meetings. For those groups which pass this stage, we arrange an interview, which many of our members attend, and make a final decision at the next meeting. This process enables us to both respond quickly to applicants and have personal contact with grantees.

In trying to place our limited funds where they will have the greatest possible leverage, we select those groups which are promoting direct change in small but significant ways. Groups which qualify for money from larger foundations and those with annual budgets over $25,000 are not considered. Vanguard supports movements which are striving towards greater equality and self-determination for disenfranchised people. This year, consumer groups have joined women's rights, prison reform, and alternative media as our major areas of concentration. We have also supported Third World and environmental groups.

As well as the more obvious economic inequalities, women face many subtle yet entrenched forms of social discrimination. While extensive coverage is given the women's movement, meager funds exist for counseling and training, and virtually none is available for more activist projects. Because of its pervasive implications for the lives of both men and women, the struggle for equal rights for women has become our most funded area. Vanguard's grantees advocate equal rights and opportunities in school systems and other public institutions, women's health care, and women's prisons.

Although the prison reform vogue several years ago led to the establishment of many halfway houses, most foundations backed down when logic inevitably led to re-evaluating the prison system itself. Most of the Third World and low-income white

people populating our prisons had a hard time earning a living even before being branded ex-cons; they find it harder, if not impossible, to get by on their own after their release. True rehabilitation would include training in marketable skills, observance of inmates' basic civil rights, and adherence to fair parole practices.

Due to the cleansing effect the media has had recently on the Federal government, the public has become more aware of the strength and importance of the communications industry. But, as with most other facets of our society, Third World people, women, and young people should have the opportunity to attain more responsible technical and executive positions. Many of our grantees are using the tools of the media to educate their communities and are gaining access to the industry to draw outside attention to their problems.

Press reports linking rising prices of basic staples with excessive corporate profits and governmental mismanagement have sparked much activity among consumer groups. Channeling people's frustration into constructive projects, these organizations are fighting the tendency of interlocking economic and political interests to control citizen's lives in unnecessarily exploitive ways. Consumer groups act as a forum for the public interest by investigating corporate activities, monitoring price and quality fluctuations, and attempting to resolve individual grievances.

Many of our society's most pressing needs are not solvable through large, broad programs but must be tackled through community level projects tailored to specific, attainable goals. Vanguard Foundation has become a center in the Bay Area for activist and experimental projects-- ones which we believe are pointing articulately toward the direction our society is moving.

Joe Belden

Obie Benz

Dale Djerassi

Penelope Gerbode

Cynthia Guyer

Annie Hess

Daisy Paradis

Courtney Price

Maggie Roth

Christine Russell

Chuck Savitt

Carl Stern

Peter Stern

GRANTS LIST -- April 1 to December 31, 1973

GRANTS:	AMOUNT:
Bay Area Women Against Rape	2,000.00
California Food Action Campaign	1,000.00
Cannery Workers Committee	2,000.00
Change for Children	2,000.00
Coyote	2,000.00
Femedia III	1,000.00
Institute for Public Journalism	2,000.00
New Alchemy Institute	1,000.00
Noe Valley Silk Screen Collective	1,000.00
Prison Law Collective	4,000.00
Rainbow Junction Kollege for Kids	2,000.00
San Francisco Ecology Center	2,000.00
San Francisco Sex Information	500.00
Toward Utility Rate Normalization	2,000.00
Turning the Regs Around	450.00
Women's Art Center	2,000.00
Women's Prison Project	1,000.00
Women's Prison Project	2,000.00
Wounded Knee Film	2,000.00
Total of January 1 to March 30, 1973	14,928.60
	$46,878.60

DONOR STIPULATED GRANTS:	
Ali Akbar College of Music	2,000.00
Artists Enterprise Theater	2,000.00
Total of January 1 to March 30, 1973	8,000.00
	$12,000.00
TOTAL GRANTS	$58,878.60

EXPENSES:

Duplication	131.52	Petty Cash	50.00
Grant Hearings	306.20	Rent	2,330.00
Legal	838.00	Secretarial	191.53
Literature	465.04	Telephone	2,354.93
Mailing	136.00	Travel	736.08
Office Supplies	1,138.91	Misc. Expenses	235.05
			$8,913.26

1972 Balance:

$30,811.96

1973 Donations:

$81,680.65

1973 ASSETS:

$112,492.61

1973 BALANCE: $43,600.75

BAY AREA WOMEN AGAINST RAPE-- Julia Schwendinger $2,000
Berkeley

Operating expenses, publicity, and printing for 30 member collective working to help rape victims. Operate a 24 hour hot-line, provide legal counseling, and accompany victims to hospital, police station, and courts. Also distribute leaflets on safety, teach classes on self-defense, campaign for better street lighting, etc.

Victims of rape often do not receive sympathetic care or support, especially at police stations and hospitals. Leaving apprehension of rapists to the police, BAWAR focuses on humanizing the attitudes and methods of institutions towards victims.

* * * *

CALIFORNIA FOOD ACTION CAMPAIGN-- Kay Pachtner, Nancy Mills $1,000
San Francisco

Coalition of local labor, consumer, and farmer groups fighting concentration of corporate power in the food industry. Organized workshops in many communities, launched a major media campaign, and distributed literature on food pricing and excess industrial profits. Demonstrated how oligopolistic practices bear much responsibility for the increase in food prices, the decline in food quality, and the elimination of the small farmer.

California Food Action provides a means for many previously uninvolved consumers to become active in fighting for fairness in the marketplace.

* * * *

CANNERY WORKERS COMMITTEE-- Rubin Reyes $2,000
San Francisco

Grant for telephone and expenses for the Committee, which is organizing Chicano cannery workers to end discrimination by both companies and the Teamsters Union. Is factory equivalent of the United Farmworkers struggle. Has filed complaints with the six appropriate State and Federal agencies: all conclude that discrimination exists; none have taken any corrective action. Over 5,000 of the 40,000 Chicano cannery workers in California have joined.

Minorities provide more than 40% of the work force but hold only 2% of the better paying jobs in the industry. The Committee is organizing a unified front to achieve parity employment at all job levels.

CHANGE FOR CHILDREN-- Irene Kane $2,000
San Francisco

Teaching materials, literature, and operating expenses for group combatting sex-role stereotyping in pre-school and elementary school programs. Have developed an extensive library of non-sexist children's books and teaching materials in which females and Third World people play principal roles and determine their own lives. Offering workshops in non-sexist education for both teachers and parents through the San Francisco School District.

Change for Children promotes programs which encourage children to establish a sense of identity and purpose based on their own talents and interests rather than their sex.

* * * *

COYOTE-- Margo St. James $2,000
San Francisco

Rent and operating expenses for organization advocating fair treatment of women arrested on charges of prostitution. Operate a 24 hour hot-line for legal counseling, speak at various engagements, and maintain a pool of lawyers who offer their services as defense attorneys. Organized and operated by an articulate former prostitute.

Experiments with legalized prostitution have operated successfully in several Western European countries. Perhaps the time has come to re-examine police priorities and the prosecution of victimless crimes.

* * * *

FEMEDIA III-- Marta Segovia Ashley $1,000
San Francisco

Helped purchase a 1/2 inch video portapak for Third World women's media collective. Provides training for women interested in pursuing careers in the media. Have produced shows for KQED on the Feminist movement, health care, sex roles, and pregnancy, with short plays to dramatize points.

Women face limited opportunities for technical training in the media. Femedia provides instruction for members in directing, camera work, writing, and editing. Eventual plans are for Femedia House, a full time facility for workshops, training classes, and studios.

INSTITUTE FOR PUBLIC JOURNALISM-- Bruce Brugman $2,000
San Francisco

Operating expenses and supplies for 10 week Summer Project on investigative journalism. Twenty-five volunteers produced articles and a special supplement to the Bay Guardian newspaper. Featured areas: the finances of hospitals and skyrocketing health costs, the relationship between campaign contributions and special interest voting of Supervisors, price comparisons of consumer staples, a cost-benefit analysis of Urban Renewal, and a study of Bay Area regulatory agencies.

The Bay Guardian's staff co-ordinates the program and assists volunteers to learn the skills of investigative journalism. This is the second year that Vanguard has funded the Summer Project.

* * * *

NEW ALCHEMY INSTITUTE-WEST-- Richard Merrill $1,000
Santa Barbara

Expenses for research and development of a cheap, simple solar heating system. Are presently building and comparing several models. Will publish a comprehensive "how to" book on completion, so that households will be able to build their own solar heaters with readily available materials and basic skills. One of several Institute projects developing integrated alternative energy and food systems: methane digesters, windmills, pond cultures, and dome greenhouses.

While huge sums have been expended for research into proposed regional solutions to the energy shortage, New Alchemy is developing systems which single households can build and operate now.

* * * *

NOE VALLEY SILK SCREEN COLLECTIVE-- Robin Cherin $1,000
San Francisco

Equipment and supplies for group printing free or low-cost posters for community groups, including the Farmworkers, the Fillmore Media Center, BARTOC, and various women's and Third World groups.

While public understanding of an activist group's program can be essential, many of these groups are unaware of the effectiveness of well-designed posters in spreading their ideas and publicizing events. As well as producing high quality work, the Collective helps members of client groups develop design and silk screen skills.

PRISON LAW COLLECTIVE-- Richard Doctoroff, Eve Pell $4,000
San Francisco

Operating expenses for the only remaining organization in California litigating for prison reform. Are arguing Hillary case, concerning the right of prisoners to be interviewed by the media. Have filed brutality suits against prison guards and several parole cases opposing indeterminate sentencing. Have also produced a 1/2 hour TV program on prisons for KQED, and published a comprehensive Jailhouse Lawyers Manual, which helps prisoners to do their own legal work.

Due to the rigidity of the prison system, litigation is often the only effective way to realize the basic civil rights of prisoners.

* * * *

RAINBOW JUNCTION KOLLEGE FOR KIDS-- Wavy Gravy $2,000
Los Gatos

Bus repairs and travel expenses for educational field trips on a multi-media bus. For racially mixed group of 10 children, aged 7 to 10, from the Pacific High School and several other alternative schools. Bus travelled around the Northwest states, visiting State Forests, farms, communes, and other schools, according to a democratically chosen route. Trips chronicled with video tape, movies, photographs, tapes, and written diaries, which have been synthesized into a presentation and shown to various groups.

These field trips exemplified the alternative education principles of learning through direct experience and of adults acting as guides, not authorities.

* * * *

SAN FRANCISCO ECOLOGY CENTER-- Gil Bailie, Charlie Starbuck $2,000
San Francisco

Operating expenses for group promoting increased environmental awareness and action. Do research on various key issues and hold periodic press conferences to present the environmental viewpoint. For example, publicized in-depth critiques of the plan to expand the San Francisco Airport, noting adverse effects for the surrounding area, flaws in the financing plan, and inaccuracies in the Environmental Impact Report.

The Ecology Center is a focal point for fights on such issues as strip mining, unchecked development and growth, the widespread use of pesticides and other harmful chemical substances, and the depletion of endangered non-human life forms.

SAN FRANCISCO SEX INFORMATION-- Toni Ayres $500
San Francisco

Paid printing and placement expenses of 666 posters in Muni buses advertising SFSI's services. Spaces were donated by the Municipal Transit Authority.

SFSI operates 4 telephone lines for 6 hours every weekday, answering questions for any caller on any subject: pregnancy, VD, sexual dysfunction, masturbation, homosexuality, etc. Staffed by 45 volunteers. Are supportive and non-judgmental with callers. Attempting to allay fears and guilt, clear up misinformation and taboo, and direct people to proper places for help. Bus publicity greatly increased their calls and opened services to young, old, and low-income peoples.

* * * *

TOWARD UTILITY RATE NORMALIZATION-- Sylvia Siegel $2,000
San Francisco

Seed money for rent and office supplies. Argue cases on behalf of the public before Public Utilities Commission hearings and in court. Volunteer staff of lawyers, economists, and accountants develops research and testimony. Working to stop rate increases in power, transportation and communication services and to reform rate structures.

Present structures charge the highest rates for the smallest households, while offering low incentive rates to heavy industrial users. TURN feels that rate structures should be reversed so that the poorest people do not bear the heaviest load.

* * * *

TURNING THE REGS AROUND-- Tim McAfee $450
San Francisco

Expenses of second edition of G.I. counseling manual, which informs armed services personnel of their rights under the Uniform Code of Military Justice and other military rules, regulations, and practices. Written to be understood by laymen, while maintaining legal accuracy. New sections on racism, filing charges against officers, and the right to petition. 5,000 copies published and distributed through G.I. coffee houses, counseling services, and other sympathetic organizations.

G.I.'s who challenge the rigid discipline of the military in order to obtain their legal rights are often subject to harassment and intimidation. This book explains both the extent of enlisted men's rights and recourses for resolving grievances.

WOMEN'S ART CENTER-- Lisa Mikulchik $2,000
San Francisco

Seed grant for rent, mailing, and office supplies for exhibition and performance space. Will provide a supportive center for women artists and a clearinghouse for their art. Gallery shows will emphasize the historical perspective of women in art, as well as current works of specific artists. Performance space to be used for dance, films, and seminars. Will maintain a slide registry of members' work.

The Center is developing a paying membership, now at 180, and will eventually support itself.

* * * *

WOMEN'S PRISON PROJECT-- Karlene Faith, Jeanne Gallick $1,000
California Institution for Women, Frontera

Survival operating expenses, literature, and travel for pilot project offering courses at CIW. Inmates receive college credit through the University of California Extension program for most courses, including Black Studies, The Chicana Experience, Media and Videotape, Creative Writing, Women and the Law, etc. Was created by several graduate students at the University of California at Santa Cruz.

The California Institute for Women is the State's only women's prison and the largest such institution in the country. This is the first non-coercive educational project of its kind and could potentially be duplicated in other prisons if its success continues.

* * * *

WOMEN'S PRISON PROJECT-- Karlene Faith, Catherine Angell $2,000
California Institution for Women, Frontera

Grant to enable program to continue through the winter. New courses include: U.S. Institutions and Political Consciousness, Drug Use in Our Culture, On Being a Woman, and The Creative Arts. Special weekend programs include Music Marathon and Black Culture Marathon. Sponsoring the Long-Termers Organization. Also organizing a monthly CIW seminar for parolees, to maintain support in the critical first year after release.

Over 1/3 of the prison population is now involved in the Project. They are currently trying to establish a permanent group to continue these programs, which are the first supportive input that inmates have ever received from the outside.

WOUNDED KNEE FILM-- Bill Yahraus, Saul Landau $2,000
San Francisco

Final edit and print for film of life and conditions at the Pine Ridge Reservation which led to the uprising in 1972 and of the subsequent Congressional hearings held by Senator Abourezk. Interviews of various people of the reservation, depicting their rise to activism. Attempts to articulate Indian demands and needs, and demonstrates that participants were of all ages and persuasions.

The film depicts both the intense intra-tribal struggle of the Oglala Sioux and the overstrained relations between many Indian people and the Bureau of Indian Affairs, based on a long history of broken promises.

* * * * * *

DONOR STIPULATED GRANTS

ALI AKBAR COLLEGE OF MUSIC-- Ali Akbar Khan $2,000
San Rafael

Grant for the building fund for well-respected school of North Indian classical music. Regular courses in sarod, sitar, tabla, vocals, Hindi languages, and dance. College also sponsors concerts, lectures, demonstrations, and intercultural musical experiments. Enrollment averages 120 students per session. The College is accredited through its affiliation with Antioch-West.

* * * *

ARTISTS ENTERPRISE THEATER-- Kevin Whitman $2,000
San Francisco

Seed money for theater for contemporary drama: from off-Broadway hits to plays never before performed. Attempting to bring to theater in San Francisco a high quality alternative to ACT. Operate a training program for acting, directing, and producing, utilizing video tape and professional instruction. Also developing an annual playwright's conference, an arts library, and a research center.